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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/516,112	03/01/2000	Hiroiyuki Fujiyoshi	862.C1854	3021

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EXAMINER

BILGRAMI, ASGHAR H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2143

DATE MAILED: 12/26/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/516,112

Applicant(s)

FUJIYOSHI, HIROYUKI

Examiner

Asghar Bilgrami

Art Unit

2143

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-94 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-94 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1, 10, 20, 21, 30, 31, 41, 50, 60, 61, 70, 71, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville U.S Patent No. 6,356,937. Montville discloses information processing apparatus, method and system respectively capable of transmitting/receiving electronic mail, comprising: designating means for designating a desired object to be attached to electronic mail. See figures 1, 2, (column 1, lines 17-67), (column 2, lines 1-5), (column 3, lines 7-67) and (column 4, lines 1-14); acquisition/extraction means for acquiring access information relating to the object designated by said designating means. See figure 5, column 5, (column 6, lines 1-30), (column 6, lines 59-67), (column 7, lines 1-26), (column 15, lines 8-48), column 16 and (column 26, lines 26-40); and generating/display means for generating electronic mail information which includes the access information acquired by said acquisition means. See figure 6-14, (column 18, lines 66-67),

Art Unit: 2143

(column 19, lines 1-27), (column 20, lines 7-10), (column 23, lines 66-67), (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

3. Claims 2, 22, 42 & 62 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus, method and system as described in paragraph 2, wherein said generating means generates an attachment file which includes the access information acquired by said acquisition means and attaches the generated attachment file to electronic mail that is to be transmitted. See figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4, lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67) and (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

4. Claims 3, 23, 43 & 63 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, wherein said generating means affixes the access information, which has been acquired by said acquisition means, to the main body of electronic mail that is to be transmitted. See figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4, lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67) and (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

5. Claims 4, 24, 44 & 64 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph

Art Unit: 2143

2, wherein the access information includes information indicating storage location of the object, which has been designated by said designating means, in a system. See figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4, lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67) and (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

6. Claims 5, 25, 45 & 65 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, wherein said designating means has display means for presenting an at-a-glance display, in a thumbnail or list format, of documents that are present in a specific storage area, and for displaying an icon corresponding to an electronic mail application that is for generating and transmitting electronic mail; wherein a desired document among the documents in the at-a-glance display is dropped onto said icon, thereby designating the desired document. See figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4, lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67) and (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

7. Claims 6, 26, 46 & 66 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, wherein said acquisition means has setting means for allowing a user to set access information via a prescribed user interface. See figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4, lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67) and (column

Art Unit: 2143

24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

8. Claims 7, 27, 47 & 67 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, wherein said acquisition means sets; an access key, which is for enabling access to the object, as part of the access information. See (column 1, lines 1-67), (column 2, lines 1-5), (column 4, lines 36-67), (column 6, lines 59-67), column 7, (column 8, lines 1-25), (column 9, lines 7-24) and column 16.

9. Claims 8, 28, 48 & 68 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, further comprising setting means for setting, as part of the access information, permission to access all object files in a storage area of an object that has been designated by said designating means. See figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4, lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67) and (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

10. Claims 9, 29, 49 & 69 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, further comprising setting means for setting, as part of the access information, permission to access other versions of an object that has been designated by said designating means. See

Art Unit: 2143

figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4, lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67) and (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

11. Claims 11, 32, 51 & 72 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, wherein said display means presents either a thumbnail display or a list display regarding objects accessed by said access means. See figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4, lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67) and (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

12. Claims 12, 33, 52 & 73 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, wherein the access information contains enabling information indicating whether it is permissible to access another object present at a storage location to which said object belongs; said access means accesses another object present at said storage location in a case where the enabling information permits access to the other object; and said display means presents an at-a-glance display relating to an object present at said storage location based upon results of accessing performed by said access means. See figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4, lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67)

Art Unit: 2143

and (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

13. Claims 13, 34, 53 & 74 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, the apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising: selection means for selecting a desired object from the at-a-glance display; and content display means for displaying content of an object that has been selected by said selection means. See figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4, lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67) and (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

14. Claims 14, 35, 54 & 75 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, wherein the access information contains enabling information indicating whether it is permissible to access another version of said object; said access means accesses an object which is another version of said object in a case where the enabling information permits access to the other version; and said display means presents an at-a-glance display inclusive of the other version of said object based upon results of accessing performed by said access means. See figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4, lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67) and (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

15. Claims 15, 36, 55 & 76 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, the apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising: selection means for selecting a desired object from the at-a-glance display; and content display means for displaying content of an object that has been selected by said selection means. See figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4, lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67) and (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

16. Claims 16, 37, 56 & 77 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, wherein said extraction means extracts the access information from a file that has been attached to electronic mail. See figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4, lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67) and (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

17. Claims 17, 38, 57 & 78 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, wherein said extraction means extracts the access information from the main body of electronic mail. See figures 5-14, (column 2, lines 17-45), (column 3, lines 7-67), (column 4,

Art Unit: 2143

lines 1-14), (column 6, lines 1-37), column 16, (column 23, lines 53-67) and (column 24, lines 1-21), (column 25, lines 59-67), (column 26, lines 1-25, lines 41-67) and (column 27, lines 1-4).

18. Claims 18, 39, 58 & 79 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, wherein the access information includes position information for specifying a storage location at which said object is present, and an access key for obtaining privilege to access an object at said storage location; and using the access key, said access means accesses said object at the storage location specified by the position information. See (column 1, lines 1-67), (column 2, lines 1-5), (column 4, lines 36-67), (column 6, lines 59-67), column7, (column 8, lines 1-25), (column 9, lines 7-24) and column 16.

19. Claims 19, 40, 59 & 80 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montville. Montville discloses the information processing apparatus and method as described in paragraph 2, wherein the access key is information for logging in to said storage location. See (column 1, lines 1-67), (column 2, lines 1-5), (column 4, lines 36-67), (column 6, lines 59-67), column7, (column 8, lines 1-25), (column 9, lines 7-24) and column 16.

20. Claims 93 & 94 have the same limitations as claim 1 therefore they are rejected under the same rationale.

Conclusion

21. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Toyoda U.S Patent NO 6,441,916 discloses internet facsimile apparatus and e-mail communication method.

Beck U.S Patent No 5,903,723 discloses a method and apparatus for transmitting electronic mail attachments with attachments references.

Beyda U.S Patent No 6,275,850 discloses a method and system for management of message attachments.

Saito U.S Patent No 6,480,884 discloses an e-mail apparatus, internet facsimile apparatus, and e-mail communication system.

Hachiya U.S Patent No 6,311,195 discloses a method and apparatus for sending e-mail, method and apparatus for receiving e-mail, sending/receiving method and apparatus for e-mail, sending program supplying medium, receiving program supplying medium and sending/receiving program supplying medium.

Wakasugi U.S Patent No 6,411,393 discloses an apparatus and method of automatically delivering e-mail stored in mail server to arbitrary Facsimile apparatus.

Gough U.S Patent No 6,360,221 discloses a method and apparatus for the production, delivery, and receipt of enhanced e-mail.

Watanabe U.S Patent No 6,327,612 discloses an electronic mail transmission with selective file attachment.

Art Unit: 2143

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Asghar Bilgrami whose telephone number is 703-305-4623. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on 703-308-5221. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-9569 for regular communications and 703-305-7201 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

AB
December 20, 2002



DAVID WILEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100